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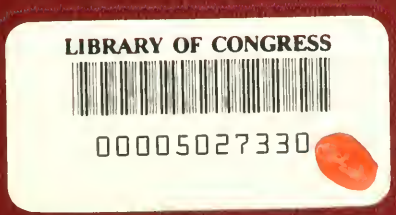

The

CENTENARY

of

HORACE GREELEY

PUBLISHED BY
THE CHAPPAQUA HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

THE PRICE OF THIS BOOK, FIFTY CENTS, OR OVER, AS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS ERECTING A STATUE TO HORACE GREELEY, AT CHAPPAQUA, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK. ¶ CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO MR. JACOB ERLICH, TREASURER, NO. 40 TO 46 WEST TWENTIETH ST., NEW YORK CITY

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1811

His Birthplace—From Photograph

Horace Greeley

Our Preface

The New York World Editorial

.... of....

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1910

Horace Greeley's 100 Years

To the many persons still living who remember Horace Greeley as a daily figure in the life of New York the one hundredth anniversary of his birth, which falls on Feb. 3, 1911, will have a special significance. By those of a later generation no less is tribute due to the memory of a man who played a part as editor, anti-slavery leader and ardent supporter of the Union that made him one of the leading characters of his century.

The moral force and energy that Greeley brought to his work gave him a personal influence that to-day is difficult to appreciate under changed conditions. The blows he struck for freedom when the fight against human slavery was a doubtful cause and most needed recruits were the expression of convictions that ignored popular ill-will and personal danger. He was a dangerous combatant whose conscience told him that he was right regardless of majorities and minorities, and time and events have fully justified the enlightened doctrines that he preached with unsparing vehemence.

Merely as a man who brought about the nomination of Lincoln, Greeley would deserve a fitting monument. In journalism, in politics and in public life he exercised extraordinary power, and in the main that power was the result of moral ideals that can never die. It is well that steps should be taken at once to bring about a fitting observance of the centennial of his birth.

Chappaqua, Westchester Co.
New York, January 30, 1911

THE
Chappaqua Historical Society

ORGANIZED SEPT. 15, 1910

Officers

JOHN I. D. BRISTOL, President
VICTOR GUINZBURG, Vice-President
JACOB ERLICH, Treasurer
EDWIN BEDELL, Secretary

Horace Greeley Memorial Committee

JOHN I. D. BRISTOL, Chairman
VICTOR GUINZBURG, Vice-President
JACOB ERLICH, Treasurer
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JOHN McKESSON, Jr.
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A. H. SMITH
L. O. THOMPSON
ALBERT TURNER

The Greeley Memorial Monument at Chappaqua

The Ground Plan is Shown in the Upper Left Hand Corner

There will be some modifications. The statue proper will be of United States standard bronze, with appropriate bronze tablet inscriptions. Native stone from the old farm of Horace Greeley will be used for the exedra (seats), with polished and carved granite for the finials and the base and cap of the pedestal. The tiled platform in its entirety will be about 49 feet in length, and the statue and pedestal some 16 feet in height. Hermetically sealed crypts will also be provided for articles to be distributed at the second centenary, February 3, A. D. 2011. The site of the statue was selected by a daughter of Mr. Greeley, the wife of the Rev. Dr. Frank M. Clendenin. It is west of the new railroad station at Chappaqua and adjacent to the old Revolutionary Pines Bridge Road, over which Washington and his soldiers retreated after the battle of White Plains. East of the statue site is the new park of the New York Central Chappaqua Station, and east of this station is the park laid out when the station was built about eight years ago upon a portion of the Farm upon which Mr. Greeley lived when he received the nomination for the Presidency. The statue will face his old home.

Executive Mansion.

Washington July 1st

Hon. Horace Greeley

My dear Sir

Yours

is just received, and

apprehension that you

nearly reaching

Niagara, if they

to come, on having

law to you of the

know that and

and if they will come on the

terms stated in the former, bring

them. I not only entertain a sincere

effort for peace, but I am

lined that you shall be a per-

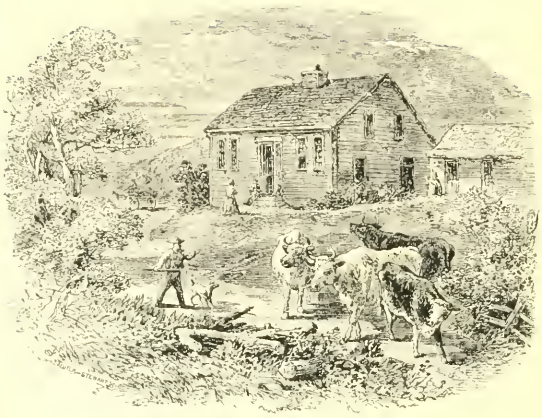
sonal witness that it is made.

Yours truly

A. Lincoln

The Famous Lincoln Peace Letter—1864

1811



His Birthplace

1813

His First School House

(Cuts photo-reproduced from "Recollections of a Busy Life," 1868)

1858

His Great Concrete Barn at Chappaqua

One of the Earliest Buildings of this Method of Construction
Transformed into a Residence After the Burning of
His "Home in the Woods." See page 9

1870

His "Home in the Woods" at Chappaqua
Destroyed by Fire in 1877

(Cuts photo-reproduced from "Recollections of a Busy Life," 1868)

The Guinzburg Plaque

An Artistic Creation of Mrs. Victor Guinzburg
Presented by Her to
The Chappaqua Historical Society
Nine and one-quarter inches in diameter
Casts Can Be Purchased
Proceeds for the Monument Fund

1909

His Great Concrete Barn, at Chappaqua (p. 7), Transformed into The Clendenin Residence, After the Destruction by Fire of His "Home in The Woods" (p. 7)

1910

The Living Room of the Clendenin Residence at Chappaqua, with His Cradle on the Hearth, and His Picture Above the Mantel

The Wind Break Planted by Him, North of the Present Site of The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, at Chappaqua

Condensed Life and Biography

....of....

Horace Greeley

1811, February 3rd:

Born at Amherst, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, his parents being Zaccheus and Mary (Woodburn) Greeley. Occupation of father, farmer.

1813:

"The newspaper which was given to him as a plaything, he examined with curiosity; inquiring first about the pictures, then the capital letters, then the smaller ones." Attends school in his third winter at Londonderry.

1814:

"Read correctly any book prepared for children."

1815:

Reads "any book whatever." Early distinguished for recitations and spelling.

1818:

Father in grave financial trouble.

1821:

Father financially ruined.

1824, January 1st:

Becomes a teetotaler and takes great interest in the temperance movement.

1826:

Enters the office of the *Northern Spectator*, at East Poultney, Vermont, as an apprentice to the art of printing. Was "the real giant" of the debating schools. His fund of information had become so great that he was regarded as a sort of walking encyclopedia; and to "him the disputes of the village were referred."

1831:

On failure of the paper with which he was engaged, obtains employment as a journeyman in Jamestown and Lodi, in New York, and Erie, Pennsylvania.

1831, August 17th:

Reaches New York City with $10.25—"poor in everything except good principles and indomitable courage." After much difficulty finds employment as a compositor in the printing establishment of John T. West, 85 Chatham Street, where he earned from five to six dollars per week with long hours. Next finds work in Ann Street, on a monthly paper, which had but a short life. Goes back to West's.

1832, January 1st:

Finds employment on *The Spirit of the Times*, devoted to sporting intelligence. A terrible season of cholera and general financial depression. Advocates the introduction of Croton water.

1832, October:

Visits his parents in New Hampshire, walking a great part of the way. Returns to New York City, finding work at the stereotyping establishment of J. S. Redfield.

1833, January 1st:

Forms partnership with Francis V. Story, Mr. George Bruce, a wealthy type founder, trusts him with $40 worth of type—a transaction resulting in the sale of over $50,000 worth of printing material during later years.

1834, March 22d:

With Jonas Winchester, who married Mr. Story's eldest sister, issues the first number of *The New Yorker*. The paper began with scarcely a dozen subscribers, increasing to 9,000.

1835, August 12th:

Thoroughly burned out, only saving books, in the great Ann Street fire.

1836, July 5th:

Marries Miss Mary Cheney. In this year dissolves with partner, Mr. Winchester taking the jobbing work and Mr. Greeley the paper.

1837:

A year of universal panic. *The New Yorker* in serious trouble, many subscriptions not paid. Struggles on.

1838:

Received $1,000 per year for editing the *Jeffersonian*, which soon reaches a circulation of 15,000 copies.

1840:

Edits the *Log Cabin*, issued from May 1st to November 1st of that Presidential year. It reached a circulation of 80,000 and was the great Whig campaign paper. Novel and unique in character, but most successful. It has been said that with the machinery of distribution now existing the circulation of this paper might have been sold to a quarter of a million.

1841, April 10th:

First number of *The New York Tribune* issued, about 500 subscribers having been obtained. The expenses of the first week were $520 receipts $92. Mr. Henry J. Raymond, celebrated in after years in journalism, but then a lad fresh from college, was Mr. Greeley's first assistant, a post which he continued to hold for nearly eight years. *The Tribune* reached a self-sustaining basis in about six months, when Mr. Thomas McElrath became a partner, investing $2,000, and taking the business management and sharing equally in profits. This period in Mr. Greeley's career marks the termination of his tremendous struggles for success. *The Tribune* under his management became the most widely noted paper of the land. "It never forgot those who were struggling for liberty in other lands, whether they were Irish, English, or French, Hungarians or Poles. It was the paper of universal humanity."

1841, September 20th:

The long struggle with *The New Yorker* is over, and the last number of the paper issued. He pays paper makers, typefounder, journeymen, etc.; subscribers owing some $10,000 in sums of $1 to $10 each fail to pay.

1848, December 1st to March 4th, 1849:

Served as a member of the House of Representatives. Fought against the abuses of mileage and introduced a bill to discourage speculation in public lands and the establishment of homesteads thereon. Opposed appropriations for furnishing members with libraries at the public expense, and sought to inaugurate other reforms. "No member was ever more faithful to his duties, and no one ever received smaller reward."

1850:

Publication of his "Hints Toward Reforms."

1851:

Visits Europe and acts in London as one of the jurors of the great Exhibition. "Appeared before the Parliamentary Committee having under consideration the newspaper taxes, and gave important and useful information respecting the newspaper press of America." His letters written in this period to *The Tribune* are among the most interesting of all the varied productions of his pen. His "Glances at Europe" published. Chappaqua farm purchased soon after.

1855:

Again visits Europe, chiefly for the purpose of attending the French Exhibition.

1856:

Spends much of the winter in Washington commenting for *The Tribune* upon Congressional proceedings. It was at this time that he was brutally assaulted by a member of Congress from Arkansas. "*The Tribune* was indicted in Virginia—at least a man was indicted for getting up a club to promote its circulation, and Mr. Greeley was indicted with him."

1859:

Journeys across the plains to California. Has his well-known interview with Brigham Young. Cordial public receptions greeted him everywhere, especially in Sacramento and San Francisco. The publication of his "Overland Journey to California" followed.

1860, May:

Attends the National Convention of the Republican party in Chicago as a delegate for Oregon by request of the Republicans of that state.

1861:

Name presented before the Republican Legislative Caucus at Albany for U. S. Senator. Gained largely upon his opponents, but defeated in nomination by reason of the supporters of Mr. Evarts going over in a body to Mr. Harris.

1864:

Engaged in efforts for peace. See in this connection letter of President Lincoln, page 5. Was a Presidential Elector for the State of New York and a delegate to the Philadelphia Loyalists' Convention. The rebellion was crushed, and the President of the short-lived Confederacy a prisoner in the hands of the Federal authorities. The Constitution of the United States was explicit, that "in all criminal prosecutions the accused should enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed." Grave legal impediments were in the way of trial or conviction. He signs the bail bond of Jefferson Davis with Mr. Gerrit Smith, the eminent Abolitionist, and others. This act of Mr. Greeley's has been most grossly misrepresented. It almost stopped the sale of his "History of the Rebellion," and lost him hundreds of thousands of votes when he ran for President.

1867:

Was a Delegate-at-Large to the New York State Convention for the Revision of the Constitution, where he was prompt and efficient in the performance of his official duties. His friends "were again anxious to send him to the Senate, and before the meeting of the Legislature the almost unanimous expression of the leading Republicans of the state, as well as that of the principal journals of the party, favored his election."

1868, September 1st:

Completes what is doubtless his most interesting work, "Recollections of a Busy Life."

1869:

"After two or three Republican candidates had been nominated and declined to run for State Controller he accepted the position, and though defeated in the contest * * * he ran ahead of the entire Republican State ticket, seven candidates in all, with the single exception of Gen. Franz Sigel, who received a considerable German vote which was not cast for the other Republican nominees."

1870:

Ran for Congress in the Sixth District, reducing Democratic majority from 2,700 to about 1,000.

1872, May 1st:

Liberal Convention at Cincinnati, attended by a vast delegation from all parts of the Union. Nominated for the Presidency with B. Gratz Brown for Vice-President, and many demonstrations of the warmest enthusiasm. In July following nominations endorsed by the Democratic Convention at Baltimore. Of the popular vote he received 2,834,079; Gen. Grant receiving 3,597,070,with 35,016 scattering.

1872, November 29th:

"The earthly life which had been so busy, so laborious, and so fruitful, was over." "No man was ever more generally respected no man ever died more generally regretted. He has passed from the busy scenes of earth, in which he was one of the most useful and busy; but as the self-cultivated man of letters, the philanthropist, the reformer and the unsurpassed journalist, he will be honorably remembered so long as the history of the Republic shall survive."

(Quotations from *The Tribune Almanac Biography*—to which we are indebted for many other facts and dates.)

J. I. D. B.

1893

"O, good gray head, whom all men knew"

I shall always think of Mr. Greeley as one of three great Americans, the other two being Franklin and Lincoln. He was not President, to be sure; but he was the maker of Presidents, and had it not been for him, Lincoln, beloved and famous, might to the end of his days have been nothing more than a faintly remembered Congressman. I couple him with these two men because the three were not only among the greatest of our own country, or of any country; but they were peculiarly dear to mankind. It will be a long time, I fear, before we shall add a fourth to this unique group. I doubt if we shall ever have another so intrinsically dear to pulsing, warm-hearted humanity as was Horace Greeley.

Joel Benton.

At Chappaqua, 1872

The White Coat. The Presidential Year

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